



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

+

PTO/SB/08B (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office: U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/769,801
				Filing Date	January 25, 2001
				First Named Inventor	George A. Tropoloc
				Group Art Unit	3713
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	56553/P001CP1/10103864

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
GFA	—	4,936,780	—	Mary A. Cogliano	06/26/1990	—
	—	4,968,255	—	Albert W. Lee	11/06/1990	—
↓	—	5,727,946	—	Lawrence I. Rosen	03/17/1998	—
	—	5,783,767	—	Jeff W. Shinsky	07/21/1998	—
↓	—	3,707,287	—	Berdine E. Spector	12/26/1972	—
	—	3,768,177	—	Richard A. Thomas	10/30/1973	—
GFA	—	3,777,414	—	Edgar A. Robinson	12/11/1973	—
	—	3,813,471	—	Clarence T. Dean, III	05/28/1974	—
↓	—	4,270,284	—	Edmund Skellings	06/02/1981	—
	—	5,018,974	—	David W. Carnahan et al.	05/28/1991	—
↓	—	5,265,878	—	Jun Y. Kim	11/30/1993	—
	—	5,269,691	—	Sandra Waldman	12/14/1993	—
GFA	—	5,312,257	—	Diana J. Tarvin et al.	05/17/1994	—

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴			
Examiner Signature:				Date Considered	5/29/02	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
GFA	—	United States Patent and Trademark Office Cover Sheet for Patent No. 1732980, Mooney, October 1929 - <u>BLANK WEBSITE IMAGE PAGE, USPTO</u>	GFA
GFA	—	United States Patent and Trademark Office Cover Sheet for Patent No. 1428456, Stranders, September 1922 - <u>BLANK WEBSITE IMAGE PAGE, USPTO</u>	GFA
GFA	—	60/030,388 George A. Tropoloc 09/23/1996	—
GFA	—	08/971,842 George A. Tropoloc 09/11/1997	—
GFA	—	09/439,414 George A. Tropoloc 11/11/1999	—
Examiner Signature:			Date Considered: 5/29/02

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.